sale and purchase of assets. ONGC has also entered into a separate Swap Agreement with M/s. Morgan Guaranty Trust Company Ltd.

(d) ONGC have able to secure cheaper financing to meet their foreign exchange requirements.

Renovation of plants

1825. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether guidelines for renovation of power plants have been issued and if so, whether these are being fully enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): A centrally sponsored scheme for renovation and modernisation of identified thermal power stations in the country is being implemented. Guidelines for implementation of the scheme are being issued from time to time, which are, by and large, being followed.

Controversy regarding article by Chairman Advisory Board for Energy

1826. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fierce controversy arising out of the article by the Chairman Advisory Board for Energy which appeared in the "Aquaworld" (July, 1986), which have been questioned in the August, 1986, issue of the same journal; and

(b) if so, what are the facts of the matter and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the article entitled "Some Thoughts on the Conservation of Water" which appeared in the July, 1986 issue of "Aquaworld" and a rejoinder article which appeared in the August, 1986 issue of the same journal. However, the Government is not aware of any controversy arising out of the article.

(b) There are many articles relating to irrigation policy etc. appearing in a large number of journals, and views expressed in other forums. These are being taken into account in policy formulation and planning.

Rural electrification

1827. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to intensify the rural electrification programme in the country;

(b) what is the number of villages in Karnataka which have still not been electrified; and

(c) by when these villages will be electrified and the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made to achieve cent percent electrification in the country by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources.

(b) 2109 villages are yet to be electrified in Karnataka as on 30-6-1986.

(c) The Planning Commission has recommended an outlay of Rs. 52.74 crores for rural electrification programme in Karnataka during the Seventh Five Year Plan. It is expected that all the remaining villages in Karnataka would be electrified by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan.